REPORT

ON

THE ADMINISTRATION OF CIVIL JUSTICE

IN

ASSAM

DURING THE YEAR

1889.

59/2347.

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The present report with the annexed statements has been prepared in the form adopted on similar occasions in previous years. Its early compilation and issue are due to the fair punctuality with which the requisite details were received from most of the local officers concerned.

Area, Population, and Jurisdiction.

The figures regarding area and population remain unaltered, and no change occurred during the year under review in the jurisdiction of the Courts of the Province.

Judicial Officers.

There were in the Province, as in 1888, three District and seven Subordinate Judges, but, owing to the addition of two European Munsiffs, posted to the Mangaldai and Golaghat Subdivisions respectively, and the withdrawal of one Native Munsiff from Goalpara, the number of officers of this class rose from 31 at the beginning of the year to 32 at its close. Of the 21 Munsiffs employed in the Assam Valley Districts, 6 were attached to Sibsagar, 5 to Kamrup, 3 to each of the districts of Darrang and Lakhimpur, and 2 to each of the remaining districts of Goalpara and Nowgong.

The number of Munsiffs exercising the powers of a Court of Small Causes in the Assam Valley Districts (9) and in Sylhet (5), respectively, underwent no change. The Munsiff of Moulvi Bazar, who had hitherto exercised the powers of a Small Cause Court up to ₹20, was vested with powers up to ₹50 throughout the jurisdiction of that Munsifi. One officer in Cachar exercised these powers during the past year.

ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

I.—CIVIL COURTS SUBORDINATE TO THE HIGH COURT.

Original Suits instituted, disposed of, and pending.

2. As compared with the figures for 1888, the returns under review show the following increase in the numbers of suits instituted, decided, and pending in the Civil Courts of Assam:—

Civil Courts.

Table A.

	Instituted.	Decided.	Pending.
1888	24,366	24,441	2,787
1889	25,434	25,052	3,631
Increase in 1889	1,068	611	844

No suits came before the Revenue Courts of the Province.

The general litigation during the year shows an increase over that of the previous three years, that of 1888 being the smallest. The litigation in the Assam Valley Districts has shown a decided tendency to fall off in all of the Sub-Districts. The number of suits in Nowgong, which alone exceeds the return of 1888, is still much smaller than that of any of the previous three years. In Sylhet, on the contrary, there has been a considerable increase, and this is

contributed to by the suits of each class. In Cachar there was no particular variation in the number of suits instituted.

Original Suits disposed of.

3. The number of original suits heard and determined was 25,052 in the past, as compared with 24,441 in the previous year, the result being an increase of 611 cases. In the Assam Valley Districts alone the number of suits decided exceeded those instituted, but still that number was smaller than in the previous year. In Sylhet the returns give different results. The outturn of work is in excess of that of the previous year, but falls short of the income. The business in Cachar calls for no special remark.

The pending files of the Province show a decided increase which is confined to Sylhet.

State of the pending files. *Table B.*

4. There were on the 31st December, 1889, 4 cases on the files of the Civil Courts of the Province which had been pending for more than a year, as against 3 similarly pending at the end of 1888. Of the 4 now under consideration, 2 were before the District Judge of Sylhet, 1 before the Subordinate Judge of Nowgong, and 1 before the Munsiff of Sibsagar. The delay in these cases and the explanations offered have been dealt with by the High Court when reviewing the statements of work periodically submitted, and need not be discussed in this report.

Number and value of Suits instituted in 1888-89. *Table C.*

5. The following statement exhibits the number and value of the suits instituted during each of the last two years:—

	Number of suits instituted.		Value in litigation.	
	1888.	1889.	1888.	1889.
			R	R
Assam Valley Districts . .	9,710	9,097	6,80,566	8,41,516
Sylhet	12,488	14,151	14,26,223	11,95,956
Cachar	2,168	2,186	1,01,499	1,18,411

It will be observed that in the Assam Valley Districts the number fell by 613, while the value rose by R1,60,950. This increase is attributable partly to the larger number of suits filed in the Subordinate Judges' Courts, and partly to the institution of several suits of comparatively high value in the Courts of Munsiffs. In Sylhet, on the other hand, exactly the converse occurred, the number of suits showing an advance by 1,663 and the aggregate value a falling off by R2,30,267. This it is explained is due to two suits of very large values having been instituted during 1888 in the District Judge's Court, but still the amount is below the average.

The average value of the suits instituted in the Civil Courts in the Province during 1889 was R84 as compared with R90 in the preceding year.

Value in detail of Suits instituted. *Annual Statement 3.*

The following statement shows in detail the value of the suits instituted during the year 1889:—

	Number of suits.			
	Assam Valley Districts.	Sylhet.	Cachar.	Total.
Not exceeding R 10	1,765	1,883	719	4,367
„ „ „ 50	4,152	7,089	966	12,207
„ „ „ 100	1,632	2,770	358	4,760
„ „ „ 500	1,320	2,112	126	3,558
„ „ „ 1,000	116	149	14	279
„ „ „ 5,000	54	99	2	155
„ „ „ 10,000	4	5	1	10
„ „ „ 1,00,000	7	2	...	9
Exceeding „ 1,00,000	...	...	...	...
Value not denotable in money	47	42	...	89
Total .	9,097	14,151	2,186	25,434

A comparison between these figures and those of the previous year indicates that in the Assam Valley Districts the number of suits below ₹1,000 and ₹10,000 in value increased from 46 to 58, and that of suits above ₹10,000 from 1 to 7, while suits the value of which was not denotable in money numbered 47, as against 43 in 1888. In Sylhet there were 104 suits valued at between ₹1,000 and ₹10,000, as compared with 78 suits in the former year, and 2, as against 6, suits valued at above ₹10,000. It will be observed from the figures reproduced on the margin that there was a slight advance in the proportion of suits the value of which did not exceed ₹100.

1886	83·6
1887	84·5
1888	83·6
1889	83·8

The following statement gives the average value of the suits instituted in each district :—

	1887.	1888.	1889.
	₹	₹	₹
Assam Valley Districts	598-3	70	92-5
Sylhet	92-4	114-2	84-5
Cachar	50-7	46-8	54-1

The variations in the figures for the Assam Valley Districts and Sylhet have already been referred to.

6. The annexed table shows the number of suits of each class instituted during the years 1888 and 1889 :— Classification of Suits instituted. *Table D.*

	1888.	1889.
Small Cause Court class	20,462	20,802
Rent Suits — Civil Courts	1,663	2,189
Rent Suits — Revenue Courts	...	...
Other classes	2,241	2,443

In all of the Assam Valley Districts, excepting Nowgong, the number of suits for money or movables has decreased, the falling off amounting in the aggregate to 509 suits of this class. In Goalpara there was a decrease of 15·53 per cent., in Darrang of 15·22, in Sibsagar of 9·25, in Kamrup of 4·54, and in Lakhimpur of 2·59. In Cachar there was a decrease of 22 cases only, but in Sylhet there was an increase of 871, or 9·2 per centum.

As compared with the previous year, there was an increase of 31·62 per centum in the total number of rent suits instituted in the Civil Courts of Assam. In the Valley Districts there was a decrease of 52 suits, or 14·2 per centum, and this result was contributed to chiefly by the district of Darrang, in which there were 46 fewer suits than in 1888.

The increase in the number of rent suits in the district of Sylhet was, it is reported, due to the repeal in July, 1889, of Section 59 of the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation.

There was an advance of 9·01 per centum in the total number of title suits, Sylhet and Cachar showing an increase of 14·09 and 32·29 per centum respectively, and the Valley Districts a decrease of 9·23 per centum.

Of 20,802 suits for money or movables instituted in 1889, 9,016, or 43·34 per centum, were dealt with by Judicial Officers exercising the powers of a Court of Small Causes for the trial of suits cognizable by such Courts and not exceeding R50 in value. The percentage in 1888 was 46·89.

Value of Suits of each class instituted.
Table F.

7. The average value of suits for money or movables was R87·7, as compared with R80·05 in 1888. Rent suits were of an average value of R31·6, and title and other suits of an average value of R106·9, as against R46·06 and R220·24 in the previous twelve months.

The percentage for the past two years of petty suits in the Assam Valley Districts, Sylhet, and Cachar, not exceeding R50 in value and cognizable by a Small Cause Court, is shown below:—

	Percentage.	
	1888.	1889.
Assam Valley Districts	67·5	65·2
Sylhet	56·4	57·
Cachar	75·5	77·3

Detailed classification of Suits instituted in 1888 and 1889.
Annual Statement 2.

8. The following details indicate the nature of the suits instituted during each of the three past years:—

Suits for Money or Movables.

	1887.	1888.	1889.
Suits for Money or Movables.			
Contract in writing	10,393	11,249	11,738
Contract not in writing	1,824	1,563	1,614
On account stated	2,048	1,381	589
Money had and received	546	478	535
Goods sold	2,555	2,574	2,773
Wages, work, and materials	427	400	365
Rent not falling under the Rent Law	186	113	164
Movable property or the value thereof	1,642	1,320	1,102
Damages	1,399	1,165	1,653
Other suits for money or movables not included above	259	219	269
Total	21,279	20,462	20,802

Suits under the Rent Law.

The suits instituted under the Rent Law during 1888 and 1889 respectively are classified in the subjoined table:—

	Civil Courts.		Revenue Courts.	
	1888.	1889.	1888.	1889.
Suits for arrears of rent	1,626	2,144	...	...
„ for enhancement or abatement of rent	7	14	...	...
„ relating to distraint	...	2	...	...
„ for damages	5	5	...	...
„ for pottas or kabuliats	...	9	...	...
„ for ejectment	9	8	...	...
„ for recovery of money or accounts from agents	14	5	...	...
Other suits under the Rent Law	2	2	...	...
Total	1,663	2,189	...	...

The increase in the number of suits for arrears of rent has been already explained.

The nature of the suits, other than suits for money or movables, instituted in the Civil Courts during 1888 and 1889 will appear from the following statement.— Title and other Suits.

	Number of suits.		Proportion of each class to the total number.	
	1888.	1889.	1888.	1889.
Suits for immovable property	955	1,002	42·61	41·01
„ for declaratory decrees	60	61	2·68	2·50
Other suits under the Specific Relief Act	841	1,017	37·53	41·63
Suits to declare and establish right to real property	85	55	3·79	2·25
Suits to declare and establish right to personal property	74	69	3·30	2·83
Suits for an account	13	17	0·59	·69
„ relating to religious endowments	...	...	...	...
„ to set aside judgments, &c., on the ground of fraud	4	5	0·18	·2
„ for dissolution of marriage	2	3	0·09	·12
„ for enforcement of matrimonial rights	179	178	7·99	7·29
„ for partition	1	4	0·04	·16
„ under Section 261, Act X of 1865 (also Hindu Wills Act)	7	9	0·31	·37
Other suits not falling under any of the previous heads	20	23	0·89	·95
TOTAL	2,241	2,443	100·	100·

The total number of suits instituted increased from 2,241 in 1888 to 2,243 in 1889.

An increase is noticed in other suits under the Specific Relief Act, and a falling off in suits to declare and establish a right to real property.

9. The manner in which suits were dealt with by the Civil Courts of the Province during each of the past five years may be gathered from the following table:— Disposed of suits. *Tables F and F 2.*

	Withdrawn, compromised, confessed, &c.	Decided *ex parte*.	Contested.	TOTAL.
1885	10,212	8,739	7,882	26,833
1886	9,636	9,012	7,147	25,795
1887	9,010	9,371	6,542	24,923
1888	8,774	9,732	5,935	24,441
1889	9,494	9,587	5,971	25,052

Of the districts in the Assam Valley, Darrang shows a decrease of 291 in the number of suits disposed of, Goalpara a decrease of 128, Sibsagar of 116, Lakhimpur of 97, and Kamrup of 85, while in Nowgong there was an increase of 113. In Sylhet there was an increase of 1,332 in the number of suits decided, and in Cachar a decrease of 117 suits.

As compared with the preceding year, an advance of 611 is shown in the total number of suits decided in the Province. There was an increase of 720 in cases uncontested by reason of withdrawal in some form or other, and of 145 in cases decided after contest. There was a decrease (145) in *ex parte* decisions, which occurred in Assam (329) and in Cachar (56), counterbalanced by an increase of 240 in Sylhet.

The number of suits compromised, withdrawn, confessed, &c., shows a decrease (245) in the Assam Valley Districts and (38) in Cachar, and an increase (1,003) in Sylhet.

Contested suits show a decrease of 80 in the Assam Valley Districts and of 23 in Cachar, and an increase of 89 in Sylhet.

In general terms, the proportion of cases contested has, as the annexed figures indicate, increased in the Assam Valley Districts and decreased in Sylhet and Cachar:—

	Percentage.	
	1888.	1889.
Assam Valley Districts	33·69	34·47
Sylhet	18·24	13·09
Cachar	14·62	14·35
	24·28	23·83

In the Assam Valley Districts the proportion of contested cases is again largest in Nowgong, where the percentage was 48·25, as compared with 47·4 in 1888. The number of cases decided under the Indian Oaths Act (X of 1873), Section 9, also continues higher in this than in any other district.

Of the total number of contested cases (3,368) decided in the Assam Valley Districts, 1,203, or 35·7 per centum were decided under the summary procedure of Small Cause Courts, and 2,165, or 64·2 per centum, under the ordinary procedure, against 38·6 and 61·3 per centum respectively in the previous year.

The following tabular statement furnishes fuller details of the manner in which suits were disposed of in the Civil Courts of Assam during each of the past three years:—

	1887.	1888.	1889.
Plaints rejected and cases dismissed for default or withdrawn . .	4,435	4,401	5,504
Dismissal *ex parte* and judgment for defendants . . .	2,294	1,393	1,927
Arbitration in favour of defendants	32	17	13
Plaintiffs unsuccessful . .	6,761 (27·13 per cent. of the whole.)	6,311 (25·82 per cent. of the whole.)	7,444 (29·71 per cent. of the whole.)
Decrees *ex parte* or on confession or judgment for plaintiffs . .	15,859	15,808	15,416
Arbitration in favour of plaintiffs .	74	71	41
Plaintiffs successful . . .	15,933 (63·93 per cent. of the whole.)	15,879 (64·97 per cent. of the whole.)	15,457 (61·69 per cent. of the whole.)
Compromised	2,229 (8·94 per cent. of the whole.)	2,251 (9·21 per cent. of the whole.)	2,151 (8·60 per cent. of the whole.)

These figures exhibit a slight decrease in the percentage of cases in which the plaintiffs were successful or which were compromised, and a slight increase in the percentage of cases in which the plaintiffs failed.

10. The following statement shows for the past two years the number of cases dismissed on default, or decreed *ex parte*, as also the number of applications for the setting aside of judgment granted in such cases :— Applications to set aside an *ex parte* judgment or a judgment on default. *Table G.*

	1888.	1889.
Number of cases dismissed on default or decreed *ex parte* . .	14,290	15,171
„ of applications to set aside judgments in such cases .	706	640
„ of such applications granted	439	378

The proportion of these applications to the total number of cases decided *ex parte* was lower than in the previous year, the percentages being 2·47 and 2·51 respectively. The number of such applications was proportionately higher in Sylhet than elsewhere in the Province.

The proportion of applications granted to the total number made was 59·06 per centum as compared with 62·18 per centum in 1888. It was highest in Sibsagar (73·18), followed by Darrang (67·16), Nowgong (57·14), Goalpara (56·52), Sylhet (54·32), Cachar (52·94), Lakhimpur (51·28), and Kamrup (36·1).

11. The result of applications for the execution of decrees during the past three years is shown in the following table:— Application for the execution of Decrees. *Table H.*

	1887.	1888.	1889.
Number on which satisfaction was obtained in full	2,532	2,610	2,674
„ „ „ „ „ in part	2,949	3,446	3,266
Amount realized ₹	3,46,635	4,70,443	4,73,513

Compared with the previous year, there was a decrease in the number of applications, but an increase in the amount realized. The increase occurred in Goalpara and Sylhet.

Of the total realizations of 1889, ₹3,85,414 were realized upon 4,963 applications after issue of process, and ₹88,099 upon 977 applications without process, the corresponding figures for 1888 being ₹3,88,875 upon 5,221 applications after issue of process, and ₹81,568 upon 835 applications without process.

12. The annexed table furnishes information as to some of the principal measures adopted during the last two years for the satisfaction of decrees in each district :— Number of coercive processes.

	1888.			1889.		
	Assam.	Sylhet.	Cachar.	Assam.	Sylhet.	Cachar.
Judgment-debtors imprisoned .	24	42	9	10	15	8
Movable property sold . .	350	538	118	319	491	118
Immovable property sold . .	215	779	74	214	884	71

In addition to the above, there were 335 cases in which movable property, and 531 cases in which immovable property, was attached and subsequently released under Section 275 of the Code of Civil Procedure. In 10 cases the immovable property of the judgment-debtor was dealt with under Section 305, Section 322, or Section 326 of the Code, and in 19 and 646 respectively possession was given of movable and immovable property.

In 4 cases specific performance was enforced, and in 1 a partition was effected under Section 265. Against 33 cases in which the judgment-debtors were imprisoned for debt, there were 159 cases in which they were released after arrest. In 1,041 instances various other means were adopted in order to effect execution. As compared with 1888, there was a decrease of 78 in the number of cases in which movable property was sold, and of 138 in which execution was effected otherwise than shown. The total number of judgment-debtors imprisoned exhibits a satisfactory decrease of 42, while sales of immovable property increased by 101.

In the Assam Valley Districts there were 815 applications for execution against the person, or 14·0 per cent. of the total number of applications for the execution of decrees. Of 68 persons arrested in fructuous cases, only 10 were imprisoned, as against 24 in the previous year.

Proceedings in Insolvency.

Tables W, W 1, and W 2.

13. The following table shows the number of applications for declaration of insolvency filed, decided, and remaining undisposed of in the case of each of the last two years:—

	Instituted.	Decided.	Pending.
1888	39	51	5
1889	27	26	6

Inclusive of 5 applications pending at the close of 1888, there were 32 on the file during 1889, of which 23 were decided by specially empowered Subordinate Judges in the Assam Valley Districts, and 3 by the District Judge of Sylhet and Cachar. Of the total number of applications made during the year, 9 were withdrawn or otherwise not prosecuted, 7 were granted, and 10 were rejected.

Of 26 applications made in the Assam Valley Districts, 6 were granted, 10 were rejected, in 10 final proceedings were not taken, and 3 remained pending at the end of the year. In Sylhet, of 5 applications 1 was granted. In Cachar there was only one application, and it was withdrawn.

The following comparative statement shows the number of persons declared insolvent, and the number of those who obtained their discharge during the past year and that immediately preceding it:—

	Declared to be Insolvents.	Discharged.	Pending.
1888	15	16	1
1889	8	9	...

The class of persons declared insolvent during the year under review is shown below:—

	Assam Valley Districts.	Sylhet.	Cachar.	Total.
Cultivators	5	...	...	5
Beggars	2	1	...	3
Total .	7	1	...	8

No estates were placed in the hands of Receivers in the course of the year.

The following amounts were realized and disbursed by Receivers during the years 1888 and 1889 respectively :—

	Amount realized.	Amount disbursed.	Balance.
	₹	₹	₹
1888	1,182	1,205	570
1889	3	288	253

In Sylhet claims to the amount of ₹270 were satisfied, those remaining unsatisfied aggregating ₹71,469.

In Cachar no claims were satisfied, while those remaining unsatisfied amounted to ₹3,051.

Original Miscellaneous Cases. *Table I.*

14. The following statement shows the number of original miscellaneous cases of a judicial nature instituted and decided in the Civil Courts during the years 1887, 1888, and 1889, and the number pending at the close of each :—

	Instituted.	Decided.	Pending.
1887	2,024	2,053	205
1888	1,995	2,021	200
1889	2,201	1,915	494

Miscellaneous Judicial Cases how disposed of. *Statement 4. Part II.*

Annexed are details indicative of the manner in which miscellaneous judicial cases were dealt with in 1888 and 1889 :—

	1888.	1889.
Withdrawn, compromised, confessed, &c. . . .	395	378
Decided *ex parte*	427	388
Referred to arbitration	...	1
Contested	1,199	1,148
TOTAL .	2,021	1,915
Percentage of contested cases	59·3	59·9

Of the 1,148 cases which were contested, the petitioners were successful in 58·97 per centum and unsuccessful in the remainder.

Miscellaneous (Non-Judicial) Cases. *Table I I.*

15. Statistics in connection with the miscellaneous non-judicial cases instituted and decided under the Rent Law in the Civil Courts of Sylhet during the two years 1888 and 1889 are given in the table below, which further shows the number of such cases remaining undecided at the close of the year :—

	Instituted.		Disposed of.		Pending.	
	1888.	1889.	1888.	1889.	1888.	1889.
Applications for deposit of rent .	272	192	240	226	36	2
„ for assistance to distrain . .	5	11	6	11	...	...
„ for sale of distrained property . .	4	37	4	34	1	
„ for the service of notice of surrender of holdings .	...	...	...	...	...	...
„ for the service of notices of execution by non-occupancy ryots of agreement to pay enhanced rent .	...	...	...	...	...	...
„ for the service of notice of transfer of occupancy holdings . .	...		...	...	...	...
TOTAL .	281	240	250	271	37	6

The decrease in the number of applications for the deposit of rent was contributed to by all the Munsifis of Sylhet, and was greatest at Moulvi Bazar.

Number of Original Suits decided with or without contest.
Annual Statement 4. Part I.

16. The number of contested and uncontested original suits decided by the Courts of each class during the past two years is shown below:—

	Contested.		Uncontested.	
	1888.	1889.	1888.	1889
District Judges . . .	10	5	4	2
Subordinate Judges . . .	89	87	453	444
Munsiffs	5,836	5,879	18,049	18,635
TOTAL .	5,935	5,971	18,506	19,081

Average duration of Suits.
Table Q.

17. The average duration of suits, contested and uncontested, before the different grades of Courts during the year is exhibited in the subjoined statement:—

	District Judges.	Subordinate Judges.	Munsiffs.
	M. D.	M. D.	M. D.
Contested	6 28	4 27	2 14
Uncontested	2 28	1 3	1 6

Contested cases before District Judges occupied more time than in 1888, but were disposed of more expeditiously by Sub-Judges.

APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

II.—THE HIGH COURT.

Appeals filed.
Table X.

18. The following table shows the number of first and second appeals against the decrees of the Courts in Assam preferred to, and decided by, the High Court during the years 1888 and 1889, and the number remaining undecided at the close of each:—

	Preferred.		Decided.		Pending.	
	1888.	1889.	1888.	1889.	1888.	1889.
First Appeals.						
From decrees	4	8	7	10	8	6
,, orders	2	1	9	1	3	3
Second Appeals.						
From decrees	66	90	67	60	53	83
,, orders	5	6	3	5	2	3

Districts from which appeals came.
Table Y.

Of 8 appeals from original decrees filed in 1889, 5 came from Sylhet, 2 from the Assam Valley Districts (*viz.*, 1 from Goalpara and 1 from Sibsagar), and 1 from Cachar.

Of 90 appeals from appellate decrees, 39 (43·3 per cent.) were from Sylhet, 30 from Goalpara, 6 from Kamrup, 4 from Nowgong, 2 from Lakhimpur, 6 from Sibsagar, and 3 from Cachar. Of the 7 miscellaneous appeals preferred, 3

came from Goalpara, 2 from Nowgong, and 2 from Sylhet. No third appeals under the Letters Patent were heard during the year.

There were 10 appeals in suits not exceeding R50 in value decided by two Judges of the High Court.

Of the 8 appeals from original decrees preferred in 1889, 1 was valued at upwards of R10,000. Of the appeals from the decrees of Subordinate Appellate Courts, 38, or 42·2 per centum, were in suits valued at not more than R50. Value of Appeals. *Table Y.*

Inclusive of such appeals as were pending at the close of 1888, 16 appeals from original decrees were on the files during 1889. Of these, 10 only were decided during the year, and in 6 the decision of the Lower Court was confirmed, the remaining 4 appeals being dismissed on default. Result of Appeals. *Table Z.*

There were altogether 143 appeals from the decisions of Subordinate Appellate Courts before the High Court during 1889, 53 of the number having been left pending at the close of the former year. Of the total, 60 were heard and determined, 29 being from the decisions of District Judges and 31 from those of Subordinate Judges. The results are shown below :—

	Decrees confirmed.	Decrees remanded.	Decrees modified.	Decrees reversed.	Appeals dismissed in default.
District Judges .	17	8	1	1	1
Subordinate Judges	24	...	6	1	...

There were altogether 12 miscellaneous appeals before the High Court during 1889, 5 pending from 1888 being included. Of the total, one half were decided, the orders of the Lower Courts being confirmed in each instance.

III.—APPELLATE COURTS SUBORDINATE TO THE HIGH COURT.

19. The following table shows the number of appeals instituted and disposed of in the Civil Appellate Courts of Assam during the years 1887, 1888, and 1889, as well as the number pending at the close of each :— Appeals instituted. *Table J.*

	1887.	1888.	1889.
Instituted	865	794	868
Decided	728	883	816
Pending	377	297	364

There was an increase in the number of appeals instituted in Kamrup (50), Sylhet (43), Nowgong (19), Sibsagar (6), and Goalpara (5), while there was a decrease of 24 in the number of appeals in Cachar, of 17 in Lakhimpur, and of 8 in Darrang.

The increase in Kamrup and the falling off in Darrang was, as stated in the Court's report of the previous year, due to the transfer of the Mangaldai appeals from the Court of the Subordinate Judge of Darrang to that of the District Judge.

While the number of appeals preferred in Assam was greater than in 1888, it is noticeable that fewer were disposed of.

The proportion of appeals actually preferred to the 3,723 cases in which an appeal lay to the Subordinate Appellate Courts was 23·31 per cent. as compared with 22·24 per cent. in 1888. The most favourable results in this respect are to be found in Lakhimpur and Darrang (9·47 and 18·15 per cent. respectively), and the least favourable in Kamrup (29·37 per cent.). Although the proportion for the Assam Valley Districts, taken as a whole, was only 21·7 per cent., it appears that the orders of Subordinate Judges were appealed against in 100 Ratio of Appeals to Decisions. *Table K.*

per cent. of the cases in Nowgong, Darrang, and Lakhimpur. The number of original suits decided by these officers in the Assam Valley Districts was larger than in the preceding year.

The following statement distinguishes appeals preferred during the year against the decrees of Subordinate Judges and of Munsiffs from the number of appealable decrees made by these Judicial Officers :—

	Subordinate Judges.	Munsiffs.
Number of decrees in contested cases against which an appeal lay to the Subordinate Appellate Courts	37	3,686
Number of appeals preferred	15	853
Ratio of appeals to appealable decrees	40·54	23·14

Appeals classified. *Table L.*

20. The number of appeals of each class instituted in the Civil Appellate Courts during the past two years is given below :—

	1888.	1889.
In suits for money or movables	443	511
„ title or other suits	280	305
„ suits under the Rent Law	62	52

Appeals valued. *Table M.*

21. The average value of appeals of each class preferred during the past two years is exhibited in the following table :—

	1888.	1889.
	R	R
In suits for money or movables	73,769	77,366
„ title or other suits	30,386	33,738
„ suits under the Rent Law	2,783	1,762
TOTAL .	1,06,938	1,12,866

Value of Appeals in detail.

The annexed table furnishes details regarding the value of the appeals of each class instituted in the course of the year under review :—

	In suits for money or movables.	In suits under the Rent Law.	In title and other suits.
Not exceeding R 10	35	13	54
„ „ „ 50	123	30	110
„ „ „ 100	157	6	54
„ „ „ 500	170	3	50
„ „ „ 1,000	20	...	6
„ „ „ 5,000	6	...	6
Value not denotable in money . . .	...	...	25
TOTAL .	511	52	305

In all classes of suits for money or movables there was an increase, but in suits under the Rent Law there was, on the contrary, a decrease throughout, except in respect of those valued at not more than R50.

In title and other suits there was an increase under every head, except in suits not exceeding R10, R100, and R1,000 in value.

Of the total number of appeals in 1889, 856, or 98·62 per centum, were cognizable by District and Subordinate Judges, and 12, or 1·38 per cent., were cognizable by District Judges alone, the Court of First Instance being in each of the latter cases a Subordinate Judge.

In 582, or 67·05 per centum, of the aggregate number of appeals, the property in litigation did not exceed ₹100 in value; in 261, or 30·07 per centum, the value exceeded that amount; and in 25, or 2·88 per centum, it was not denotable in money.

22. The number of appeals decided after hearing was 787. The figures for the past three years are reproduced in juxtaposition below :— Appeals how decided. *Table N.*

	Number.			Percentage.		
	1887.	1888.	1889.	1887.	1888.	1889.
Confirmed	445	572	543	66·9	67·5	68·9
Modified	86	84	83	12·9	9·9	10·6
Reversed	104	144	124	15·6	16·9	15·8
Remanded	30	48	37	4·6	5·7	4·7

Compared with the figures for 1888, the result of appeals was more favourable to the Courts of First Instance in Sylhet, where the percentage of decisions upheld was 71·4 per cent., as against 68·6 per cent. in 1888.

In the Assam Valley Districts the percentage of decisions upheld was less favourable than in 1888, being 61·7 per cent. against 62·5 per centum, but in Cachar it was more favourable, the proportions being 80·9 and 63 per centum respectively.

23. The number of appeals and miscellaneous cases before Appellate Courts instituted and decided during each of the past three years and pending at the close of each are compared in the following table :— Miscellaneous Cases before Appellate Courts. *Table O.*

	1887.	1888.	1889.
Instituted	73	75	87
Decided	69	71	93
Pending	14	18	12

It thus appears that there was an increase in the number of cases of this class instituted and decided during the year under review.

IV.—GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE.

24. The figures furnished below show that the number of days devoted by District Judges to their civil judicial work fell short by 18 of the number so spent in 1888. This falling off appears in each district. The amount of work done, judged numerically, was, however, in excess of that of the previous year. Work done by District Judges. *Table P 1.*

	Days.		Original suits.	Miscellaneous cases.	Regular appeals.	Miscellaneous cases before Appellate Courts.	Sessions trials.	Criminal appeals.
	Civil.	Criminal.						
1888 . .	186	320	14	257	356	44	128	519
1889 . .	168	307	7	225	294	69	115	646
	−18	−13	−7	−32	−62	+25	−13	+127
	−31		+88					

Of the 7 original suits disposed of in 1889, 4 were decided by the District Judge of Sylhet against 6 in 1888, 2 by the Deputy Commissioner of Cachar sitting as a District Judge, as compared with 4 in the previous year, and 1 by the Judge of the Assam Valley Districts, or three less than in 1888. The Judge of Sylhet devoted 91 days to civil judicial work in 1889, as against 94 days in 1887, while the number of days on which the Judge of the Assam Valley Districts and the District Judge of Cachar sat for the disposal of civil work was 35 and 42 respectively. The number of appeals disposed of by the Judge of the Assam Valley Districts was 100 in the past, as against 133 in the preceding year.

Work done by Subordinate Judges.
Table P 3

25. The tabular statement annexed shows the work done by Subordinate Judges in Assam during each of the past two years:—

	Original Suits		Miscellaneous (judicial) cases.	Applications for the execution of decrees.	Regular appeals.	Miscellaneous cases before Appellate Courts.
	Tried under ordinary procedure.	Tried under Small Cause Court procedure.				
1888 . . .	126	416	112	240	527	27
1889 . . .	155	376	81	246	522	24

As in previous years, all the original suits shown as tried under the Small Cause Court procedure were decided by the Subordinate Judge of Sylhet. There was on the whole an increase in the original, and a decrease in the appellate, work done by Subordinate Judges during the year. The former is noticeable in almost all the districts in the Assam Valley, and the latter occurred in Sylhet alone.

Work done by Munsiffs.
Table P 4.

26. The number of original suits decided by Munsiffs during the past two years is shown below:—

	Withdrawn, compromised, confessed, &c.	Decided *ex parte*.	Contested.	Total.
1888.				
Under ordinary procedure	5,120	5,531	4,054	14,705
„ Small Cause Court powers	3,504	3,894	1,782	9,180
Total .	8,624	9,425	5,836	23,885
1889.				
Under ordinary procedure	5,856	5,833	4,185	15,874
„ Small Cause Court powers	3,490	3,456	1,694	8,640
Total .	9,346	9,289	5,879	24,514

As has been the case hitherto, the Munsiff of Nowgong decided the largest number (885) of original suits after contest, the Munsiff of Gauhati coming next with 487 cases and the 1st Munsiff of Habigunj standing third with 368 cases.

The number of miscellaneous cases of each class decided by the Munsiffs of Assam during the past year is compared below with the corresponding figures for 1888:—

	1888.	1889.
Application for execution of decrees	5,804	5,689
Miscellaneous (judicial) cases	1,652	1,609
„ (non-judicial) cases	250	271
Total .	7,706	7,569

Applications for the execution of decrees were most numerous in the 1st and 2nd Courts of Sylhet, in the Court of the Munsiff of Karimgunj, in that of the Munsiff of Sonamgunj, in the 1st and 3rd Courts at Habigunj, and in the 2nd Court at Moulvi Bazar.

The largest number of miscellaneous judicial cases was decided by the Munsiffs of Jorehaut, Gauhati, and Nowgong, and more non-judicial cases were decided by the 3rd Munsiff of Habigunj than by any other Court of the same class.

Civil Court Amins. *Table U.*

27. During the financial year 1889-90 the receipts on account of the employment of Civil Court Amins in the Assam Valley Districts aggregated R361, while the disbursements reached the sum of R328. In Sylhet the receipts amounted to R1,680 and the disbursements to R1,200, and in Cachar the whole of the receipts, *viz.*, R348, was disbursed during the year. As has been reported on previous occasions, no permanent Civil Court Amins are employed in the Assam Valley Districts or in Cachar, men being entertained when required and paid at the rate of R3 per diem.

Local enquiries. *Table V.*

28. Enquiries were completed in 142 cases, as compared with 175 in 1888, and the average value of the suits concerned was R196 as compared with R140 in 1888, while the average cost of deputation was R22, as compared with R25 in the preceding year.

Judicial Buildings.

29. The reports received show that the judicial buildings in all the districts of the Assam Valley were on the whole maintained in fair order.

The District Judge of Sylhet makes the following observations:—

"The Courts of the District Judge, the Subordinate Judge, and of the two Sudder Munsiffs are held in brick-built houses under the immediate supervision of the Public Works Department. Though two additional rooms were supplied as reported last year, the Sudder Munsiffs still complain justly of the insufficiency of accommodation for their establishment.

"The Chief Commissioner of Assam has sanctioned additional accommodation and brick floors for the Munsiffs' Court-houses at Karimgunj and Sonamgunj.

"The Munsiffs of Habigunj reported their Court-houses in good condition, requiring but petty repairs for which funds have been supplied. The Munsiff of the 3rd Court there complains of the dampness of the Court-house owing to low lands surrounding it, and suggests that the Court compound ought to be raised to a higher level and the floor made of brick, and that a pucka record-room should be provided and a private chamber supplied.

"The Munsiffs of Moulvi Bazar reported their Court-houses in tolerably good condition, requiring some petty repairs to the house of the 1st Court. The house of the 2nd Court was repaired last year. One of the Munsiffs suggests that it would have been better if a brick Court-house were built."

The Deputy Commissioner of Cachar reports that the judicial buildings have been repaired and are in good order.

Receipts and Charges of the Civil Courts. *Tables R & S.*

30. The following statement shows the receipts and expenditure of the Civil Courts in the Province during the past three years:—

	Receipts.	Expenditure.	Surplus.
	R	R	R
1887	3,49,864	2,25,894	1,23,970
1888	3,53,379	2,23,772	1,29,607
1889	3,74,394	2,15,598	1,58,796
Increase in 1889 as compared with 1888 . .	21,015	...	29,189
Decrease in 1889 as compared with 1888 . .	...	8,174	...

As compared with the figures for 1888, there was in every district an increase in the receipts.

Further details of the receipts and charges of the Civil Courts during the past two years are supplied below :—

		Receipts.				Charges.	
		1888.	1889.			1888.	1889.
		R	R			R	R
In Stamps	Process fees	1,00,749	1,03,370	Salaries of	Judicial officers	1,03,874	95,565
	Other fees	2,29,743	2,43,281		Process-servers	39,158	39,205
In Cash or Special Stamps.	Fines	1,403	1,190		Establishment. Salaried copying and comparing clerks	1,659	1,648
	Copying and comparing fees	14,480	15,736		Others	59,380	59,996
	Other receipts	7,004	10,817	Fees paid to copyists not on the paid establishment		7,267	7,844
				Contingencies and refunds		12,434	11,340
	Total	3,53,379	3,74,394		Total	2,23,772	2,15,598

There was an increase in process fees, "other fees," copying and comparing fees, and in other receipts, while there was a decrease in fines. The aggregate receipts rose by R21,015.

The total expenditure shows a decrease of R8,174 occurring in the salaries of Judicial Officers and in the establishment of salaried copying and comparing clerks. There was an increase of R29,189 in the net receipts, the surplus realized from the Civil Courts being R1,58,796.

Court-fees and Establishment Charges.

The following statement shows for each district the receipts from court-fees and the charges on account of establishments during each of the past two years, exclusive of the receipts and charges on account of the preparation of copies, which are considered separately :—

	Court-fees realized.		Cost of Establishment.	
	1888.	1889.	1888.	1889.
	R	R	R	R
Assam Valley Districts	1,28,367	1,26,265	86,460	80,682
Sylhet	1,80,859	1,97,615	1,00,590	1,01,063
Cachar	21,266	22,771	15,422	14,669
Total	3,30,492	3,46,651	2,02,412	1,96,414

The mode hitherto adopted and accepted by Government in making these calculations has been followed in preference to that adopted by the Government of India in the preparation of the return published in the Supplement to *Gazette of India*, dated the 11th January, 1890. The High Court is not prepared to accept several of the items on the debit side of that account as purely chargeable against the annual income for Civil Justice. For instance, the rent of Court-houses cannot properly be so charged when these have been built out of surplus revenue. Again, some allowance should be made for the cost of the machinery afforded by the Courts in collecting the revenue on Probates and Letters of Administration. If the Courts were not available for this purpose, the Government would be compelled to provide other means for the collection of revenue involving some expenditure of public funds. The High Court will, however, take another opportunity of discussing the subject more fully, and merely now make this explanation of their continuing to make the above return.

Compared with 1888, there was a decrease in the Assam Valley Districts, while there was an increase in Sylhet and Cachar. These followed the variations in the number of cases instituted.

As regards the cost of establishment, there was an increase of R473 in Sylhet, and a decrease of R5,718 in the Assam Valley Districts and of R753 in Cachar.

The financial result in 1889 of the new system of preparing copies of documents required by parties is shown below :— Receipts and Disbursements of the Copying Department.

	R	R
Copying and comparing fees realized by special stamps	...	15,786
Salary of copying and comparing clerks on the fixed establishment	1,648	
Fees paid to copyists not on the fixed establishment .	7,344	
		9,492
SURPLUS . .		6,244

This surplus does not include expedition fees for copies required urgently, as these are treated in the accounts as miscellaneous receipts and are not separately shown.

31. Rupees 8,654 were realized in 1889 on the grant of Probates and Letters of Administration, as compared with R10,642 in 1888. Of the former amount, R5,070 were levied on account of Probates or Letters of Administration with Wills annexed. Twenty Probates and Letters of Administration in connection with estates, the assets of which did not exceed R1,000 in value, and on which no duty was levied, were granted by District Courts, as against 29 in 1887 and 52 in 1888. Probate, &c. *Table T.*

In addition to the cases mentioned above, 174 Probates and 143 Letters of Administration were granted by the High Court in respect of estates situated partly in Assam and partly in other Provinces. The corresponding figures for 1888 were 139 Probates and 137 Letters of Administration. These figures have been included in the returns for Bengal also.

32. The Subordinate Courts of the Assam Valley Districts were all inspected during the year. In Sylhet the District Judge inspected the Courts of the Sudder Munsiffs and those of the Munsiffs of Karimgunj, and in Cachar the Court of the Hailakandi Munsiff was twice inspected. Inspection by District Judges.

ANNUAL STATEMENTS (CIVIL).

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A

Original Suits instituted, disposed of and pending in the past as compared with the preceding year.

Judgeships.	Districts.	Instituted.		Disposed of.		Pending.	
		1888.	1889.	1888.	1889.	1888.	1889.
Assam Valley	Goalpara	1,256	1,085	1,298	1,170	154	90
	Kamrup*	2,033	1,949	2,101	2,016	181	149
	Nowgong	1,693	1,807	1,723	1,836	158	176
	Darrang	1,595	1,827	1,631	1,340	111	154
	Sibsagar	2,043	1,878	2,181	2,065	206	172
	Lakhimpur	1,090	1,051	1,150	1,053	53	73
	Total	9,710	9,097	10,084	9,480	863	814
Sylhet	Sylhet	12,488	14,151	12,080	13,412	1,815	2,670
Cachar	Cachar	2,168	2,186	2,277	2,160	109	147
	Grand Total	24,366	25,434	24,441	25,052	2,787	3,631

* Including the Court of the District Judge.

B

Suits and Appeals pending more than one year at the close of 1888 and 1889.

Judgeships.	Districts.	1888.		1889.	
		Suits.	Appeals.	Suits.	Appeals.
Assam Valley	Goalpara	1	...	...	...
	Kamrup*	...	...	...	1
	Nowgong	...	...	1	...
	Darrang	...	...	...	...
	Sibsagar	...	...	1	...
	Lakhimpur	...	...	...	...
Sylhet	Sylhet	2	...	2	...
Cachar	Cachar	...	...	...	...
	Total	3	...	4	1

* Including the Court of the District Judge.

C

Number and Value of Suits instituted in the Civil Courts, 1885 to 1889.

Judgeships.	Districts.	Value in 1885.	Number in 1885.	Number in 1886.	Number in 1887.	Number in 1888.	Number in 1889.	Value in 1889.
		₹						₹
Assam Valley	Goalpara . .	1,16,135	1,402	1,656	1,399	1,256	1,085	2,33,844
	Kamrup* . .	2,02,218	2,232	1,991	2,074	2,033	1,949	1,72,729
	Nowgong . .	92,154	2,123	1,838	2,019	1,693	1,807	68,162
	Darrang . .	1,47,716	1,535	1,599	1,858	1,595	1,327	80,082
	Sibsagar . .	1,35,361	1,999	2,413	2,304	2,043	1,878	1,56,540
	Lakhimpur . .	2,42,542	1,526	1,374	1,552	1,090	1,051	1,30,159
	Total .	9,36,126	10,817	10,871	11,206	9,710	9,097	8,41,516
Sylhet . .	Sylhet . . .	10,91,518	12,186	11,975	11,172	12,488	14,151	11,95,956
Cachar . .	Cachar . . .	1,44,928	2,608	2,206	2,214	2,168	2,186	1,18,411
	Grand Total .	21,72,572	25,611	25,052	24,592	24,366	25,434	21,55,883

* Including the Court of the District Judge.

D

Number of Suits of each class instituted in the Civil Courts in the past as compared with the preceding year.

Judgeships.	Districts.	1888.			1889.		
		For money or movables.	Under the Rent Law.	In title suits.	For money or movables.	Under the Rent Law.	In title suits.
Assam Valley	Goalpara . . .	1,152	47	57	973	47	65
	Kamrup* . . .	1,762	93	178	1,682	103	164
	Nowgong . . .	1,498	87	108	1,669	70	68
	Darrang . . .	1,438	84	73	1,219	38	70
	Sibsagar . . .	1,891	32	120	1,716	41	121
	Lakhimpur . . .	1,040	33	27	1,013	15	23
	Total .	8,781	366	563	8,272	314	511
Sylhet . .	Sylhet	9,650	1,256	1,582	10,521	1,825	1,805
Cachar . .	Cachar	2,031	41	96	2,009	50	127
	Grand Total .	20,462	1,663	2,241	20,802	2,189	2,443

* Including the Court of the District Judge.

E

Value of Suits of each class instituted in the Civil Courts in the past as compared with the preceding year.

Judgeships.	Districts.	1888. For money or movables.	1888. Under the Rent Law.	1888. In title suits.	1889. For money or movables.	1889. Under the Rent Law.	1889. In title suits.
		₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹
Assam Valley	Goalpara . .	1,21,208	2,454	3,173	1,85,716	2,487	45,641
	Kamrup* . .	1,33,837	3,455	10,676	1,50,285	3,380	19,064
	Nowgong . .	76,912	821	4,285	64,510	634	3,018
	Darrang . .	86,924	1,405	3,776	73,634	873	5,575
	Sibsagar . .	1,30,866	1,002	5,103	1,41,826	1,046	13,668
	Lakhimpur .	93,399	435	841	1,28,080	278	1,801
	Total .	6,43,146	9,572	27,848	7,44,051	8,698	88,767
Sylhet . .	Sylhet . .	8,99,120	66,183	4,60,920	9,70,595	58,758	1,66,603
Cachar . .	Cachar . .	95,832	855	4,812	1,10,849	1,798	5,764
	Grand Total .	16,38,098	76,610	4,93,580	18,25,495	69,254	2,61,134

* Including the Court of the District Judge.

F

Manner of disposal of Original Suits by the Civil Courts, 1889.

Judgeships.	Districts.	Withdrawn, compromised, confessed, &c.	Decided *ex parte*.	Contested.	Total.
Assam Valley .	Goalpara . . .	614	338	218	1,170
	Kamrup . . .	812	513	691	2,016
	Nowgong . . .	561	389	886	1,836
	Darrang . . .	716	196	428	1,340
	Sibsagar . . .	959	317	789	2,065
	Lakhimpur . . .	446	251	356	1,053
	Total .	4,108	2,004	3,368	9,480
Sylhet . .	Sylhet	4,673	6,446	2,293	13,412
Cachar . .	Cachar	713	1,137	310	2,160
	Grand Total .	9,494	9,587	5,971	25,052

F 2.

Manner of disposal of Suits by Officers vested with Small Cause Court powers.

Judgeships.	Districts.	Withdrawn, compromised, confessed, &c.	Decided *ex parte*.	Contested.	Total.
Assam Valley .	Goalpara . . .	234	131	54	419
	Kamrup . . .	236	136	140	512
	Nowgong . . .	375	312	522	1,209
	Darrang . . .	291	95	87	473
	Sibsagar . . .	579	200	365	1,144
	Lakhimpur . . .	48	33	35	116
Sylhet . .	Sylhet	1,639	2,486	483	4,608
Cachar . .	Cachar	191	302	42	535
	Total .	3,593	3,695	1,728	9,016

Applications for an order to set aside an ex parte *Judgment or a Judgment on default, 1889.*

		MUNSIFFS.						SUBORDINATE JUDGES.						JUDGES.					
		PREFERRED.			DISPOSED OF.			PREFERRED.			DISPOSED OF.			PREFERRED.			DISPOSED OF.		
		To set aside *ex parte* Judgment.	To set aside Judgment on default.	Total.	Applications granted.	Applications rejected.	Total disposed of.	To set aside *ex parte* Judgment.	To set aside Judgment on default.	Total.	Applications granted.	Applications rejected.	Total.	To set aside *ex parte* Judgment.	To set aside Judgment on default.	Total.	Applications granted.	Applications rejected.	Total.
Assam Valley	Goalpara	9	14	23	13	13	26	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Kamrup	38	34	72	26	44	70	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Nowgong	31	39	70	40	32	72	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Darrang	17	50	67	45	22	67	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Sibsagar	49	130	179	131	51	182	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Lakhimpur	13	26	39	20	18	38	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Total	157	293	450	275	180	455	...	...	.	..	..	.	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sylhet	Sylhet	77	85	162	88	66	154	5	6	11	6	2	8	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cachar	Cachar	5	12	17	9	6	15	...	...	...	..	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Grand Total	239	390	629	372	252	624	5	6	11	6	2	8	...	...	...	...	...	...

H

Result of proceedings in execution of decrees in the Civil Courts.

Districts.	Court.	Number of applications in which realizations were made.				Amount realized.		
		In full satisfaction of decree.	In part satisfaction of decree.	With process.	Without process.	With process.	Without process.	Total.
						R	R	R
Goalpara . . .	R	140	119	253	6	77,520	665	78,185
Kamrup . . .	R	142	345	481	6	29,563	522	30,085
Nowgong . . .	R	77	101	166	12	5,524	1,296	6,820
Darrang . . .	R	111	142	246	7	10,279	138	10,417
Sibsagar . . .	R	270	312	580	2	25,825	149	25,974
Lakhimpur . . .	R	152	109	215	46	16,321	1,662	17,983
Total .	R	892	1,128	1,941	79	1,65,032	4,432	1,69,464
Sylhet . . .	R	1,607	1,865	2,643	829	2,07,190	81,026	2,88,216
Cachar . . .	R	175	273	379	69	13,192	2,641	15,833
Grand Total .	R	2,674	3,266	4,963	977	3,85,414	88,099	4,73,513

I

Original Miscellaneous Cases instituted, disposed of and pending in Civil Courts in the past as compared with the preceding year.

Judicial.

Judgeships.	Districts.	Instituted.		Disposed of.		Pending.	
		1888.	1889.	1888.	1889.	1888.	1889.
Assam Valley .	Goalpara . . .	107	74	99	80	17	11
	Kamrup* . . .	262	321	266	310	31	40
	Nowgong . . .	144	136	146	138	14	16
	Darrang . . .	134	139	134	130	17	26
	Sibsagar . . .	376	311	369	339	43	17
	Lakhimpur . . .	148	91	150	91	8	9
	Total .	1,171	1,072	1,164	1,088	130	119
Sylhet . . .	Sylhet	652	954	677	669	67	355
Cachar . .	Cachar	172	175	180	158	3	20
	Grand Total .	1,995	2,201	2,021	1,915	200	494

* Including the Court of the District Judge.

I 1.

Original Miscellaneous Cases instituted, disposed of and pending in Civil Courts in the past as compared with the preceding year.

NON-JUDICIAL.

Judgeships.	Districts.	Instituted.		Disposed of.		Pending.	
		1888.	1889.	1888.	1889.	1888.	1889.
Assam Valley	Goalpara	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Kamrup	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Nowgong	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Darrang	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Sibsagar	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Lakhimpur	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Total	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sylhet	Sylhet	281	240	250	271	37	6
Cachar	Cachar	...	...	..	...	...	...
	Grand Total	281	240	250	271	37	6

J

Appeals instituted, disposed of and pending in the Civil Courts in the past as compared with the preceding year.

Judgeships.	Districts.	Instituted.		Disposed of.		Pending.	
		1888.	1889.	1888.	1889.	1888.	1889.
Assam Valley	Goalpara	30	35	33	36	3	2
	Kamrup*	168	218	193	244	85	67
	Nowgong	56	75	47	62	17	28
	Darrang	17	9	28	9	3	3
	Sibsagar	94	100	128	85	18	34
	Lakhimpur	43	26	35	16	2	12
	Total	408	463	464	452	128	146
Sylhet	Sylhet	314	357	319	322	128	171
Cachar	Cachar	72	48	100	42	41	47
	Grand Total	794	868	883	816	297	364

* Including the Court of the District Judge.

K

Number of Appellate Judges and of Appeals preferred and ratio of Appeals to decisions.

Judgeships.	Districts.	Appellate Judges.	Number of decisions in contested cases against which an appeal lay to the District Court.	Appeals preferred.	Ratio of appeals to decisions in which an appeal lay.
Assam Valley	Goalpara	1	159	35	22·01
	Kamrup	2	548	161	29·37
	Nowgong	1	363	76	20·93
	Darrang	1	336	61	18·15
	Sibsagar	1	414	101	24·39
	Lakhimpur	1	306	29	9·47
	Total	7	2,126	463	21·77
Sylhet	Sylhet	2	1,334	357	26·76
Cachar	Cachar	1	263	48	18·25
	Grand Total	10	3,723	868	23·31

L

Number of Appeals of each class instituted in the Civil Courts in the past as compared with the preceding year.

Judgeships.	Districts.	1888.			1889.		
		In cases for money or movables.	Under the Rent Law.	In title suits.	In cases for money or movables.	Under the Rent Law.	In title suits.
Assam Valley	Goalpara	23	1	6	23	5	7
	Kamrup	81	9	78	137	2	79
	Nowgong	35	...	21	48	...	27
	Darrang	15	...	2	7	...	2
	Sibsagar	72	3	19	69	1	30
	Lakhimpur	35	...	8	25	...	1
	Total	261	13	134	309	8	146
Sylhet	Sylhet	131	46	137	171	43	143
Cachar	Cachar	51	3	18	31	1	16
	Grand Total	443	62	289	511	52	305

M

Value of Appeals of each class instituted in the Civil Courts in the past as compared with the preceding year.

Judgeships.	Districts.	1888. In cases for money or movables.	1888. Under the Rent Law.	1888. In title suits.	1889. In cases for money or movables.	1889. Under the Rent Law.	1889. In title suits.
		₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹
Assam Valley	Goalpara	3,863	26	292	4,529		445
	Kamrup	19,584	223	8,912	25,908	79	11,303
	Nowgong	4,376	...	2,312	4,749	...	687
	Darrang	1,031	...	130	869	...	234
	Sibsagar	10,155	67	305	7,887	15	1,231
	Lakhimpur	6,859	...	212	6,779	...	60
	Total	45,842	316	12,163	50,721	172	13,960
Sylhet	Sylhet	20,575	2,352	16,857	22,770	1,540	18,344
Cachar	Cachar	7,352	115	1,366	3,875	50	1,434
	Grand Total	73,769	2,783	30,386	77,366	1,762	33,738

N

Appeals how disposed of.

Districts.	Confirmed.	Modified.	Reversed.	Remanded.	Otherwise disposed of.	Total.
Assam Valley	279	45	87	32	9	452
Sylhet	230	35	33	4	20	322
Cachar	34	3	4	1	...	42
Total	543	83	124	37	29	816

O

Miscellaneous Appeals.

Judgeships.	Districts.	Instituted. 1888.	Instituted. 1889.	Disposed of. 1888.	Disposed of. 1889.	Pending. 1888.	Pending. 1889.
Assam Valley	Goalpara	4	...	4	...	...	...
	Kamrup*	9	13	12	14	2	1
	Nowgong	9	5	8	7	2	...
	Darrang	1	1	3	...	...	1
	Sibsagar	7	7	4	9	3	1
	Lakhimpur	3	1	3	1	...	...
	Total	33	27	34	31	7	3
Sylhet	Sylhet	36	57	29	60	11	8
Cachar	Cachar	6	3	8	2	...	1
	Grand Total	75	87	71	93	18	12

* Including the Court of the District Judge.

P 1.

Work done by District Judges.

Districts.	Days, Civil.	Days, Criminal.	Original Suits.	Miscellaneous Regular Cases.	Regular Appeals.	Miscellaneous Appeals.	Number of Sessions Trials.	Number of Criminal Appeals.
Assam Valley . . .	35	46	1	53	100	14	36	212
Sylhet	91	147	4	147	152	53	69	375
Cachar	42	114	2	25	42	2	10	59
Total .	168	307	7	225	294	69	115	646

P 3.

Work done by Subordinate Judges.

Districts.	1888.					1889.				
	Original suits disposed of.	Miscellaneous cases (judicial).	Applications for the execution of decrees.	Appeals disposed of.		Original suits disposed of.	Miscellaneous cases (judicial).	Applications for the execution of decrees.	Appeals disposed of.	
				Regular.	Miscellaneous.				Regular.	Miscellaneous.
Goalpara	13	6	10	33	4	14	6	20	36	...
Kamrup	6	18	12	60	...	8	20	5	144	...
Nowgong	5	15	4	47	8	1	5	3	62	7
Darrang	5	1	5	28	3	5	2	4	9	...
Sibsagar	7	20	2	123	4	16	8	5	85	9
Lakhimpur	13	9	13	35	3	18	4	6	16	1
Total .	49	69	46	331	22	62	45	43	352	17
Sylhet	493	43	194	196	5	469	36	203	170	7
Cachar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Grand Total .	542	112	240	527	27	531	81	246	522	24

P 4.

Showing the number of Suits and Miscellaneous Cases disposed of in each Munsiff's Court in 1889.

Districts.	Munsiffs.	Suits.				Miscellaneous.		
		Withdrawn, compromised, confessed, &c.	Decided *ex parte*.	Contested.	Total.	Applications for execution of decrees.	Judicial.	Non-judicial.
Assam Valley	Goalpara	99	64	65	228	98	22	...
	Dhubri	507	271	150	928	141	52	...
	Gauhati	573	302	487	1,362	282	164	...
	Burpettah	236	211	198	645	200	73	...
	Nowgong	561	389	885	1,835	175	133	...
	Tezpur	419	127	155	701	104	56	...
	Mungledye	297	67	270	634	145	72	...
	Sibsagar	258	54	253	565	113	73	...
	Jorhat	449	143	258	850	187	177	...
	Golaghat	249	117	268	634	277	81	...
	Debrughur	267	197	241	705	172	58	...
	North Lakhimpur	168	52	110	330	83	29	...
	Total	4,083	1,991	3,340	9,417	1,977	990	...
Sylhet	1st Sudder	443	707	226	1,376	463	90	4
	2nd Do.	389	530	246	1,165	440	84	11
	Karimgunge	488	774	164	1,426	419	50	13
	Sonamgunge	614	1,100	313	2,027	328	41	31
	1st Habigunge	304	398	368	1,070	327	41	...
	2nd Do.	343	460	281	1,084	392	59	...
	3rd Do.	1,101	1,212	247	2,560	319	40	111
	1st Moulvie Bazar	410	503	204	1,117	625	37	16
	2nd Do.	458	475	181	1,114	312	44	85
	Total	4,550	6,159	2,230	12,939	3,265	486	271
Cachar	Extra Assistant Commissioner as Sudder Munsiff of Cachar.	434	773	167	1,374	229	70	...
	Hailakandi Assistant Commissioner with powers of Munsiff.	279	363	142	784	218	63	...
	Total	713	1,136	309	2,158	447	133	...
	Grand Total	9,346	9,289	5,879	24,514	5,689	1,609	271

Q

Average duration of cases.

		District Judges.		Subordinate Judges.		Munsiffs.		Small Cause Court Judges.	
		Contested.	Uncontested.	Contested.	Uncontested.	Contested.	Uncontested.	Contested.	Uncontested.
		Y. M. D.	M. D.	M. D.	M. D.	M. D.	M. D.	M. D	M. D.
Assam Valley	O	0 5 16	...	5 21	2 1	2 14	1 1	...	...
	S	...	...	...	...	0 29	0 23	...	...
Sylhet	O	0 5 6	5 6	8 24	1 20	3 25	1 20	...	...
	S	...	...	1 8	0 26	1 13	1 1	...	...
Cachar	O	1 1 20	0 20	...	...	2 13	0 19	...	...
	S	...	...	...	...	0 24	0 15	...	...
Total average	O	0 6 28	2 28	7 6	1 24	3 1	1 11	...	...
	S	...	...	1 8	0 26	1 2	0 27	...	...

R

Total Receipts and Charges of Civil Courts, 1889.

Districts.	Receipts.	Charges.	Surplus.	Deficit.
	₹	₹	₹	₹
Assam Valley	1,41,158	87,234	53,924	.....
Sylhet	2,08,457	1,12,942	95,515	.....
Cachar	24,779	15,422	9,357	.....
Total	3,74,394	2,15,598	1,58,796	.....

S

Detail of the Receipts and Charges of the several classes of Civil Courts, 1889.

Districts.		Receipts.					Charges.						
		In court-fee stamps.		In cash or special stamps.				Establishment.					
		Process fees.	Other fees.	Fines.	Copying and comparing fees.	Other receipts credited to Government.	Total.	Share of officers' salary debitable to Civil Justice.	Process-servers.	Salaried copying and comparing clerks.	Others.	Fees paid to copyists not on the paid establishment.	Contingencies and refunds.	Total.
		₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹
Assam Valley		31,694	94,581	530	5,542	8,821	1,41,158	33,383	15,079	...	27,220	2,747	3,805	87,234
Sylhet		64,417	1,33,198	563	9,205	1,074	2,08,457	49,413	21,537	1,423	28,690	4,603	7,276	1,12,942
Cachar		7,269	15,502	97	989	922	24,779	7,769	2,589	225	4,036	494	259	15,422
Total	Munsiffs	91,163	1,82,445	1,153	7,709	1,498	2,83,968	64,348	28,824	751	35,141	3,837	7,381	1,40,232
	Sub-Judges	8,875	37,274	37	2,520	620	49,326	16,446	1,204	...	7,381	1,253	1,420	27,704
	Judges	3,332	23,562	...	5,507	8,699	41,100	14,771	9,177	897	17,474	2,754	2,539	47,612
Grand Total		1,03,370	2,43,281	1,190	15,736	10,817	3,74,394	95,565	39,205	1,648	59,996	7,844	11,340	2,15,598

T

Statement showing the number of Probates, Letters of Administration and Certificates under Act XXVII of 1860 and Act VII of 1889 granted in the Province of Assam during the financial year 1889-90, and the amount of duty realized thereon.

Value of Assets.		Number of Probates or Letters of Administration with Will annexed.	Amount of Court-fees paid.	Number of Letters of Administration (as in the case of intestacy).	Amount of Court-fees paid.	Number of Certificates under Act XXVII of 1860 or Act VII of 1889.	Amount of Court-fees paid.	Number of extended Certificates under Section 10 of Act VII of 1889.	Amount of Court-fees paid.
₹			₹		₹		₹		₹
Not exceeding . 1,000	High Court .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	District Court .	20	...	2	...	72	367	3	25
Above ₹1,000 up to 5,000	High Court .	2	67	...	...	...	...	...	...
	District Court .	10	402	2	116	25	1,328	...	...
Above ₹5,000 „ 10,000	High Court .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	District Court .	2	119	1	120	5	605	...	...
Above ₹10,000 „ 50,000	High Court .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	District Court .	3	730	...	...	2	1,023	...	...
Above ₹50,000 „ 1,00,000	High Court .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	District Court .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Above ₹1,00,000 .	High Court .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	District Court .	1	3,752	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total .	High Court .	2	67	...	...	...	...	...	...
	District Court .	36	5,003	5	236	104	3,323	3	25
Grand Total .		38	5,070	5	236	104	3,323	3	25

U

Receipts and disbursements on account of Ameens, 1889-1890.

Districts.	Permanent Ameens.		Temporary Ameens.		Fees paid for the employment of Munsiffs as Commissioners.	Number of permanent Ameens with grades.	
	Receipts.	Disbursements.	Receipts.	Disbursements.		1st grade.	2nd grade.
Assam Valley	...	...	361	328	57	...	...
Sylhet	1,680	1,200	...	...	9	...	2
Cachar	...	...	348	348	...	...	...
Add 10 per cent. on account of pension .	...	120	...	...	...	...	...
Total .	1,680	1,320	709	676	66	..	2

V

Statistics of local enquiries in 1889, Assam.

Scale of Value.		Number.	Aggregate value.	Average value.	Aggregate cost of local enquiry.	Average cost of local enquiry.	Average time occupied on enquiry.
₹			₹	₹	₹	₹	Days.
Cases not exceeding . .	5	24	74	3	224	9	3
„ . .	20	29	400	14	396	13	4
„ . .	50	27	988	36	360	13	3
„ . .	100	24	1,699	71	387	16	4
„ . .	500	26	4,511	173	437	17	4
„ . .	1,000	5	4,126	825	254	51	15
Cases exceeding . .	1,000	7	16,108	2,301	1,070	152	31
Total .		142	27,906	196·5	3,128	22·02	...

W

Applications for declaration of Insolvency, 1889.

Districts.	Instituted.		Disposed of.		Pending.	
	1888.	1889.	1888.	1889.	1888.	1889.
Assam Valley	28	21	31	23	5	3
Sylhet	8	5	15	2	...	3
Cachar	3	1	5	1	...	...
Total .	39	27	51	26	5	6

W 1.

Number of persons declared to be insolvents.

Districts.	Declared to be insolvents.		Discharged.		Pending.	
	1888.	1889.	1888.	1889.	1888.	1889
Assam Valley	9	7	9	7	...	...
Sylhet	5	1	6	2	1	...
Cachar	1	...	1	...	...	...
Total .	15	8	16	9	1	...

W 2.

Realizations and disbursements by Receivers.

Districts.	Realized.		Disbursed.		Balance.	
	1888.	1889.	1888.	1889.	1888.	1889.
	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹
Assam Valley	492	...	474	...	32	...
Sylhet	690	3	731	288	531	246
Cachar	...	...	...	...	7	7
Total .	1,182	3	1,205	288	570	253

X

Civil business disposed of in the High Court in 1889.

(APPELLATE CIVIL JURISDICTION.)

ASSAM.

		Remaining at the close of 1888.	Brought before the Court in 1889.	Disposed of in 1889.	Remaining at the close of 1889.
FIRST APPEALS	From Original Decrees of the Courts in the interior	8	8	10	6
	From Original Orders of the Courts in the interior	3	1	1	3
SECOND APPEALS	From Appellate Decrees of the Courts in the interior	53	90	60	83
	From Appellate Orders of the Courts in the interior	2	6	5	3
	Miscellaneous Orders in Court	...	19	16	3

Y

Appeals, &c., instituted in the High Court in the year 1889.

(SHOWING DIVISIONS AND DISTRICTS.)

		INSTITUTED IN 1889.						
		APPEALS FROM DECREES.					APPEALS FROM ORDERS.	
		FIRST APPEALS.			SECOND APPEALS.			
		Rupees 10,000 and upwards.	Below R10,000.	Letters of Administration.	Exceeding R50 in value.	Not exceeding R50 in value.	First Appeals.	Second Appeals.
ASSAM	Assam Valley Districts	...	2	...	30	18	1	4
	Sylhet	1	3	1	20	19	...	2
	Cachar	...	1	...	2	1	...	...
	TOTAL FOR ASSAM	1	6	1	52	38	1	6

Z

Result of Appeals in the High Court during the year 1889.

		Affirmed.	Reversed.	Varied.	Remanded.	OTHERWISE DISPOSED OF.				TOTAL.
						Dismissed on default.	Withdrawn.	Compromised.	Appeals summarily rejected under Section 551, Act XIV of 1882.	
ASSAM.										
APPEALS FROM ORIGINAL DECREES.	District Judge	1	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	4
	Subordinate Judge	1	1	...	1	3	...	...	...	6
APPEALS FROM APPELLATE DECREES.	District Judge	17	1	1	8	1	...	1	...	29
	Subordinate Judge	24	1	6	...	...	...	...	...	31
APPEALS FROM ORDERS.	District Judge	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
	Subordinate Judge	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
	Munsifs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	TOTAL	49	4	8	9	5	...	1	...	76

Annual Statement 1—(Civil).

Statement showing the Number of Judicial Divisions and of Officers exercising Jurisdiction in Civil Cases in the last year, the Work done and the Receipts and the Charges of the Courts during 1889.

Districts.	Area.	Population.	Number of District Judgeships.	Number of Munsiffs.	TOTAL NUMBER OF OFFICERS EXERCISING JURISDICTION IN CIVIL CASES.												NUMBER OF CIVIL CASES ORIGINALLY DECIDED.						Total Number of Miscellaneous Cases decided.	NUMBER OF CIVIL APPEALS DECIDED.				Total Number of Miscellaneous Appeals decided.	Total Receipts of Civil Courts.	Total Charges of Civil Courts.
					OFFICERS EXERCISING BOTH ORIGINAL AND APPELLATE JURISDICTION.								OFFICERS EXERCISING ORIGINAL JURISDICTION ONLY.																	
					Judges of the High Court.		District and Additional Judges.		Subordinate Judges.				Small Cause Court Judges, with the powers of a Subordinate Judge.		Small Cause Court Judges only.		Munsiffs.													
									Subordinate Judges only.		Subordinate Judges, with the powers of a Small Cause Court Judge.																			
					European.	Native.	European.	Native.	European.	Native.	European.	Native.	European.	Native.	European.	Native.	European.	Native.	By the High Court.	By District and Additional Judges.	By Small Cause Court Judges.	By Subordinate Judges.	By Munsiffs.	Total.		By the High Court.	By District Judges.	By Subordinate Judges.	Total.			
Goalpara	3,953	446,232	1	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	14	1,156	9,480	89	...	100	36	452	...	141,158	87,234
Kamrup	3,631	644,960		2	...	...		...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	...		...	8	2,007		310	...		144		14		
Nowgong	3,257	310,579		1	...	...		...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...		...	1	1,835		138	...		62		7		
Darrang	3,415	273,333		2	...	...		...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...		...	5	1,335		130	...		9		...		
Sibsagar	2,854	370,274		3	...	...		...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	...		...	16	2,049		339	...		85		9		
Lakhimpur	3,723	179,893		2	...	...		...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...		...	18	1,035		91	...		16		1		
Total	20,836	2,225,271	1	12	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	13	...	1	...	62	9,417	...	1,088	...	100	352	...	31	141,158	87,234
Sylhet	5,413	1,969,009	1	5	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	4	...	469	12,939	...	669	...	152	170	...	60	208,457	112,942
Cachar	1,285	289,425	1	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2	...	...	2,158	...	158	...	42	...	...	2	24,779	15,422
Grand Total	27,534	4,483,705	3	19	...	...	3	...	6	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	9	23	...	7	...	531	24,514	...	1,915	...	294	522	...	93	374,394	215,598

Annual Statement 2—(Civil).

Statement showing the Number and Description of Civil Suits instituted in the Civil and Revenue Courts in the Province of Assam in the year 1889.

| Class of Tribunals. | Suits for money or movable property. | | | | | | | | | | | Suits under the Rent Law. | | | | | | | | | Title and other Suits. | | | | | | | | | | |

Annual Statement 3—(Civil).

Statement showing Number and Value of Suits instituted in the Civil and Revenue Courts in the Province of Assam in the year 1889.

CLASS OF COURTS.	NUMBER OF SUITS INSTITUTED IN THE DIFFERENT COURTS.																			TOTAL VALUE OF SUITS.
	VALUE NOT EXCEEDING R10.			VALUE NOT EXCEEDING R50.			VALUE NOT EXCEEDING R100.			VALUE NOT EXCEEDING R500.			Value not exceeding R1,000.	Value not exceeding R5,000.	Value not exceeding R10,000.	Value not exceeding R1,00,000.	Value exceeding R1,00,000.	The value of which cannot be estimated in money.	Total.	
	Suits for money or movables.	Suits under the Rent Law.	Title and other suits.	Suits for money or movables.	Suits under the Rent Law.	Title and other suits.	Suits for money or movables.	Suits under the Rent Law.	Title and other suits.	Suits for money or movables.	Suits under the Rent Law.	Title and other suits.								
COURTS IN THE INTERIOR.																				R
I.—CIVIL COURTS.																				
Unpaid Tribunals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Village Courts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Paid Subdivisional Tribunals { Under ordinary procedure	1,142	860	502	3,095	1,107	1,156	3,896	159	395	3,269	57	232	278	...	...	...	...	82	16,230	13,67,448
Paid Subdivisional Tribunals { Under Small Cause Court powers	1,863	...	...	6,828	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,691	2,11,912
Small Cause Courts { As Small Cause Court Judges	...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small Cause Courts { Under powers of Subordinate Judge	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
District Courts other than Chief Courts of Districts { Under ordinary procedure	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	152	9	9	...	1	171	5,37,869
District Courts other than Chief Courts of Districts { Under Small Cause Court powers	...	...	...	21	...	...	310	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	331	24,087
Chief Courts of Districts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	1	...	...	6	11	14,568
Total	3,005	860	502	9,944	1,107	1,156	4,206	159	395	3,269	57	232	279	155	10	9	...	89	25,434	21,55,883
II.—REVENUE COURTS.																				
Unpaid local Tribunals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Subordinate Courts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
District Courts :—Collectors	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
GRAND TOTAL FOR COURTS IN THE INTERIOR	3,005	860	502	9,944	1,107	1,156	4,206	159	395	3,269	57	232	279	155	10	9	...	89	25,434	21,55,883

Annual Statement 4—(Civil).

Statement showing the General Result of the Trial of Civil and Revenue Cases in the Courts of Original Jurisdiction in the Province of Assam in the year 1889.

Part I.—Civil Suits.

Class of Courts.	Number of suits before the Courts.							Number of suits disposed of.														Average number of days the suits were pending.	
	Pending from last year.	Instituted in 1889.	Received by transfer from other Courts.	Remanded under Section 562 of Act X of 1877	Reviews under Section 626.	Revived under Section 98, 103, 108 or 371.	Total for disposal.	Transferred to other Courts.	Without Trial.			Without Contest.				On reference to Arbitration.		With Contest.		Total disposed of, omitting transfers.	Pending at close of year.	Number of cases pending more than three months at the close of the year.	
									Plaint rejected or returned.	Dismissed for default or want of prosecution.	Withdrawn with leave.	Compromised.	Decreed on confession.	Decreed *ex parte*.	Dismissed *ex parte*.	For plaintiff.	For defendant.	Judgment for plaintiff in whole or part.	Judgment for defendant.				Contested.	Uncontested.
COURTS IN THE INTERIOR.																							
I.—Civil Courts.																							
Unpaid Tribunals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Village Courts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Paid Sub-divisional Tribunals — Under ordinary procedure	2,172	16,230	212	39	35	215	18,903	301	51	2,835	282	1,534	1,154	5,785	48	35	11	2,825	1,314	15,874	2,728	757	91	41
Paid Sub-divisional Tribunals — Under Small Cause Court powers	542	8,691	139	...	10	153	9,535	76	24	2,174	64	596	652	3,433	23	3	1	1,167	523	8,640	819	2	32	27
Small Cause Courts — As Small Cause Court Judges	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small Cause Courts — Under powers of Subordinate Judge	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
District Courts other than Chief Courts of Districts — Under ordinary procedure	42	171	2	1	...	...	216	1	1	6	4	16	17	58	...	3	1	39	10	155	60	34	216	54
District Courts other than Chief Courts of Districts — Under Small Cause Court powers	26	331	76	...	4	6	443	52	1	57	4	5	36	239	...	...	...	27	7	376	15	...	38	26
Chief Courts of Districts	5	11	...	...	...	...	16	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	3	2	7	9	8	208	88
Total of each class for Civil Courts — Suits for money or movables	1,891	20,802	243	20	38	341	23,335	243	50	4,232	191	1,544	1,684	8,682	63	30	8	2,986	1,339	20,809	2,283	266	60	31
Total of each class for Civil Courts — Suits under the Rent Law	184	2,189	80	4	7	11	2,475	80	5	521	69	278	94	648	2	3	1	278	88	1,987	408	112	88	49
Total of each class for Civil Courts — Title and other suits	712	2,443	106	16	4	22	3,303	107	22	320	94	329	61	186	6	8	4	797	429	2,256	940	423	127	86
Total	2,787	25,434	429	40	49	374	29,113	430	77	5,073	354	2,151	1,839	9,516	71	41	13	4,061	1,856	25,052	3,631	801	75	36
II.—Revenue Courts.																							
Unpaid Local Tribunals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Subordinate Courts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
District Courts:—Collectors	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Grand Total for Courts in the Interior	2,787	25,434	429	40	49	374	29,113	430	77	5,073	354	2,151	1,839	9,516	71	41	13	4,061	1,856	25,052	3,631	801	75	36

Annual Statement 4—(Civil).

Statement showing the General Result of the Trial of Civil and Revenue Cases in the Courts of Original Jurisdiction in the Province of Assam in the year 1889.

Part II.—Miscellaneous Cases (Judicial).

Class of Courts.	Suits remaining from last year.	Instituted in 1889.	Received otherwise.				Total for disposal.	Transferred to other Courts.	Disposed of												Total of cols. 10 to 20, i.e., disposed of, omitting transfers.	Pending at close of year.	Number of cases pending more than three months at the close of the year.	Average number of days the cases were pending.
									Without Trial.			Without Contest.				On reference to Arbitration.		With Contest.						
			Received by transfer from other Courts.	Remanded under Section 562, Act X of 1877.	Reviewed under Section 626.	Revived under Sections 90, 108, 108.			Applications rejected or returned.	Dismissed for default or want of prosecution.	Withdrawn with leave.	Compromised.	Decreed on confession.	Decreed ex parte.	Dismissed ex parte.	For plaintiff.	For defendant.	Judgment for plaintiff in whole or part.	Judgment for defendant.						
COURTS IN THE INTERIOR.																								
I.—Civil Courts.																								
Unpaid Tribunals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...
Village Courts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...
Paid Sub-divisional Tribunals	169	1,572	40	4	...	4	1,789	2	36	212	8	47	25	154	36	1	...	650	440		1,609	178	24	36
Small Cause Courts — As Small Cause Court Judges	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...
Small Cause Courts — Under powers of Subordinate Judge	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...
District Courts other than Chief Courts of Districts	14	92	6	...	...	...	112	...	10	15	4	...	2	6	4	...	...	21	19		81	31	8	56
Chief Courts of Districts	17	537	...	...	...	...	554	44	1	14	3	...	1	181	7	...	...	6	12		225	285	75	48
Total	200	2,201	46	4	...	4	2,455	46	47	241	15	47	28	341	47	1	...	677	471		1,915	494	107	38
II.—Revenue Courts.																								
Unpaid local Tribunals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...
Other Subordinate Courts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...
District Courts :—Collectors	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...
Grand Total for Courts in the Interior	200	2,201	46	4	...	4	2,455	46	47	241	15	47	28	341	47	1	...	677	471		1,915	494	107	38

Annual Statement—5 (Civil).

Statement showing the Business of the Civil and Revenue Appellate Courts of the Province of Assam in the year 1889.

PART I.—APPEALS FROM DECREES.

CLASS OF COURTS.	Appeals remaining from last year.	Instituted in 1889.	Otherwise received.				Total for disposal.	Transferred to other Courts.	Decisions confirmed under Section 551.	Dismissed for default, Sections 556, 557, or otherwise not prosecuted.	Heard ex parte.				Contested.				Total disposed of, omitting transfers.	Pending.	Of those pending more than three months.	Average number of days the appeals were pending.	Objections under Section 561 of Act X of 1877.
			Received by transfer from other Courts.	Reviews under Section 626, Act X of 1877.	Remands under Section 562.	Revivals under Sections 558, 560.					Confirmed.	Modified.	Reversed.	Remanded under Section 562.	Confirmed.	Modified.	Reversed.	Remanded under Section 562.					
COURTS IN THE INTERIOR.																							
APPEALS FROM ORIGINAL DECREES.																							
A.—Civil Courts.																							
Chief Appellate Courts other than Chief Court of District	70	245	354	...	2	4	675	9	2	23	11	1	7	1	330	50	71	26	528	144	72	119	21
Chief Appellate Courts of Districts	227	623	10	...	9	...	869	355	5	6	9	4	2	3	186	28	44	7	294	220	119	208	36
Superior Appellate Courts other than Chief Court of Province	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL OF EACH CLASS FOR CIVIL COURTS. Appeals from decisions in Suits for Money or Movables	133	511	150	...	2	2	798	154	2	14	15	5	7	2	270	44	60	16	435	209	107	129	17
In Suits under the Rent Law	25	52	17	...	1	...	95	13	...	1	...	...	...	1	42	4	13	1	62	20	11	156	5
In Title and other Suits	139	305	197	...	8	2	651	197	5	14	5	...	2	1	204	30	42	16	319	135	73	166	35
TOTAL	297	868	364	...	11	4	1,544	364	7	29	20	5	9	4	516	78	115	33	816	364	191	151	57
B.—Revenue Courts.																							
Collectors' Appellate Courts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
GRAND TOTAL FOR COURTS IN THE INTERIOR	297	868	364	...	11	4	1,544	364	7	29	20	5	9	4	516	78	115	33	816	364	191	151	57
COURTS AT THE PRESIDENCY.																							
APPEALS FROM ORIGINAL DECREES.																							
CHIEF COURT OF PROVINCE. From decisions by Courts in the interior	8	8	...	...	...	...	16	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	2	1	2	1	10	6	6	448	...
From decisions on the Original Side	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
APPEALS FROM APPELLATE DECREES.																							
CHIEF COURT OF PROVINCE. From decisions by Appellate Courts in the interior	53	90	...	...	...	...	143	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	41	7	2	8	60	83	48	291	...
From decisions by a single Judge or Bench on Appeal in the Chief Court	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL	61	98	...	...	...	...	159	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	43	8	4	9	70	89	54	314	...

Annual Statement 5—(Civil).

Statement showing the Business of the Civil and Revenue Appellate Courts of the Province of Assam in the year 1889.

Part II.—Miscellaneous Cases before Appellate Courts.

Class of Courts.	Appeals remaining from last year.	Instituted in 1889.	Otherwise received.				Total for disposal.	Transferred to other Courts.	Decisions confirmed under Section 561.	Dismissed for default or otherwise not prosecuted.	Heard *ex parte*.				Contested.				Total disposed of omitting transfers.	Pending.	Of these pending more than three months.	Average number of days the appeals were pending.	Objection under Section 561, Act X of 1877.
			Received by transfer from other Courts	Reviewed under Section 626, Act X of 1877.	Remands under Section 562.	Restored to file under 558, 559,					Rejected.	Modified.	Decreed or granted.	Remanded under Section 562.	Rejected.	Modified.	Decreed or granted.	Remanded under Section 562					
COURTS IN THE INTERIOR.																							
First Appeals.																							
A.—Civil Courts.																							
Chief Appellate Court other than Chief Court of District	5	22	...	...	...	...	27	...	1	3	...	...	1	...	11	...	8	...	24	4	...	75	...
Chief Appellate Courts of Districts	13	64	...	...	...	...	77		1	6	9	...	3	1	34	3	8	4	69	8	...	94	1
Superior Appellate Court other than Chief Court of Province	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	18	87	...	...	...	...	105	...	2	9	9	...	4	1	45	3	16	4	93	12	...	89	1
B.—Revenue Courts.																							
Collectors' Appellate Courts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Grand Total for Courts in the Interior	18	87	...	...	...	...	105	...	2	9	9	...	4	1	45	3	16	4	93	12	...	89	1
COURTS AT THE PRESIDENCY.																							
First Appeals.																							
Chief Court of Province — From decisions by Courts in the interior	3	1	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	3	3	136	...
Chief Court of Province — From decisions on the Original Side	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	3	1	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	3	3	136	...
Second Appeals.																							
Chief Court of Province — From decisions by Appellate Courts in the interior	2	6	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	5	3	1	127	...
Chief Court of Province — From decisions of a single Judge or Bench on Appeal in the Chief Court	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	2	6	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	5	3	1	127	...

Annual Statement 6—(Civil).

Statement showing the Result of Proceedings on Applications for the Execution of the Decrees of the Civil and Revenue Courts in the Province of Assam in the year 1889.

CLASS OF COURTS.	NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS DEALT WITH.					APPLICATIONS DISPOSED OF.						DETAILS OF ENTRIES IN COLUMN 9.						AMOUNT REALIZED.		NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS.									
	Pending at the end of 1889.	Filed.		Restored to the file for any cause.	Total.	Transferred.		Wholly or partly satisfied.	Wholly infructuous.	Total.	Pending at the end of 1889.	Number of applications pending more than three months at the close of the year.	Satisfaction obtained in full.	Satisfaction obtained in part.	Satisfaction obtained through the Court.	Adjusted under Section 258.	Satisfaction obtained with the issue of process.	Satisfaction obtained without the issue of process.	With the issue of process.	Without the issue of process.	On which the judgment-debtor was imprisoned.	On which he was arrested under Section 336, but released without imprisonment.	On which MOVABLE PROPERTY		On which IMMOVABLE PROPERTY			On which possession was given			
		The decrees being those of the Court where execution is taken out.	The decrees being those of other Courts transferred for execution.			To another Court under Section 223.	To the Collector under Section 320.																Was sold.	Was attached, but subsequently released under Section 275.	Was sold.	Was dealt with under Section 305, 312 or 316.	Was attached, but subsequently released under Section 272.	On which Specific Performance was enforced.	Of movables, Section 259.	Of immovables, Sections 263 and 264.	On which partition was effected, Section 265.	On which execution was effected otherwise than in the preceding columns.
																			R	R										
COURTS IN THE INTERIOR.																														
I.—Civil Courts.																														
Unpaid Tribunals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Village Courts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Paid Subdivisional Tribunals	2,116	14,507	340	9	16,972	168	...	5,689	8,892	14,749	2,223	346	2,584	3,105	4,492	1,197	4,768	921	2,50,101	76,691	33	155	891	329	1,112	10	520	4	19	639	...	1,020
Small Cause Courts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
District Courts other than Chief Courts of Districts	148	563	36	...	747	42	...	246	300	588	159	48	87	159	138	108	190	56	1,33,861	11,408	...	4	36	6	56	...	11	...	...	7	1	21
Chief Courts of Districts	2	9	13	...	24	9	...	5	2	16	8	3	3	2	3	2	5	...	1,452	...	...	...	1	..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	2,266	15,079	389	9	17,743	219	...	5,940	9,194	15,353	2,390	397	2,674	3,266	4,633	1,307	4,963	977	3,85,414	88,099	33	159	928	335	1,169	10	531	4	19	646	1	1,041
II.—Revenue Courts.																														
Unpaid local Tribunals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Subordinate Courts	3	2	...	...	5	...	...	5	...	5	...	...	2	3	3	2	5	...	565	...	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
District Courts :—Collectors	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	3	2	...	...	5	...	...	5	...	5	...	...	2	3	3	2	5	...	565	...	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Grand Total for Courts in the Interior	2,269	15,081	389	9	17,748	219	...	5,945	9,194	15,358	2,390	397	2,676	3,269	4,636	1,309	4,968	977	3,85,979	88,099	33	159	929	338	1,169	10	531	4	19	646	1	1,042

Annual Statement 7—(Civil).

Proceedings in Insolvency under Chapter XX, Act XIV of 1882, in the Province of Assam during the year 1889.

Part I—Showing the number and result of Applications under Section 344, and the number of Persons in respect to whom a Declaration of Insolvency has been made before the Court.

Class of Courts.	Applications for a Declaration of Insolvency.															Persons declared to be Insolvents.								
	Number of Applications dealt with.						Applications disposed of.									Number before the Court.				Disposed of.				
	Pending at the close of the previous year.	Filed during the year.			Received by transfer.	Total.	Transferred.	Withdrawn or otherwise not prosecuted.	Granted		Rejected.			Total.	Pending at the close of the year.	Remaining at the close of the previous year.	Declared to be insolvents during the year.	Received by transfer.	Total.	Transferred.	Died.	Discharged.		Remaining at the close of the year.
		By judgment-debtor.		By decree-holders.					A Receiver being appointed.	A Receiver not being appointed.	Penal proceedings under Section 359 not being taken.	Sentence of imprisonment being passed under Section 359.	Applicant being sent to the Magistrate to be dealt with.								Under Section 351.	Under Section 355.	
		Under arrest or imprisonment.	Not under arrest or imprisonment.																					
Courts other than Chief Courts of Districts specially empowered	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chief Courts of Districts	5	17	10	...	...	32	...	9	...	7	10	...	...	26	6	1	8	...	9	...	...	8	1	...
Superior Courts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	5	17	10	...	...	32	...	9	...	7	10	...	...	26	6	1	8	...	9	...	...	8	1	...

Part II—Showing the number of Estates in the hands of Receivers and the progress made in winding up.

Class of Courts.	Number of Insolvents' Estates in the hands of Receivers.				Amount of Creditors' claims dealt with during the year.					Amount of Insolvents' assets realized and outstanding.			
	Pending at the close of the previous year.	Placed in charge of a Receiver during the year.	Number of Estates in regard to which proceedings were finally closed during the year.	Pending at the close of the year.	Unsatisfied and pending at the close of the year.	Admitted.	Disallowed.	Satisfied.	Unsatisfied and pending at the close of the year.	Amount of realized assets in the hands of Receivers at the close of the previous year.	Gross amount realized during the year.	Total amount of disbursements.	Amount remaining in the hands of Receivers at the close of the year.
					R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
Courts other than Chief Courts of Districts specially empowered.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chief Courts of Districts	39	...	1	38	74,650	140	...	270	74,520	538	3	288	253
Superior Courts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	39	...	1	38	74,650	140	...	270	74,520	538	3	288	253

Annual Statement 8—(Civil).

Statement showing use of Assessors in the Civil Courts in the Province of Assam in the year 1889.

Classes of Courts in which Jurors or Assessors are employed, distinguishing Criminal from Civil Courts.	Established or average number of Jury or Assessor in each case, and prescribed qualification.	Number of cases tried by Jury.	Number of cases with Assessors.	JURY TRIALS.					ASSESSORS' TRIALS.			Remarks. (Note in what classes of cases Jurice and Assessors have been principally employed.)
				Cases in which the Judge approved of the verdict.	Cases in which the Judge did not approve of the verdict.		Number of persons of the verdict in respect to whom the Judge disapproved.		Number of cases in which Judges agreed with Assessors.	Number of cases in which Judges differed from		
					Wholly.	Partially.	Whose cases he referred under Section 307, C. P. C.	Whose cases he did not refer under Section 307, C. P. C.		One Assessor.	Both Assessors.	
I.—Civil Courts.												
Chief Court of District (or officer specially empowered) acting under Act X of 1880. } Assessors.	2	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	
Total .	2	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	